

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 9-31. Claims 8-21 were rejected by the Examiner. By this amendment, claim 8 has been cancelled. Claims 11-13 and 15-21 have been amended to depend from claim 10, and claim 9 has been amended to depend from claim 14. Similar new claims 22-31 have been added to depend from claim 14. For at least the reason that claims 10 and 14 are allowable, their dependent claims 9, 11-13 and 15-31 should also be allowable.

Claims 8-9, 11-13 and 15-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Patel (U.S. Patent No. 4,945,538). By this Response, claim 8 has been cancelled and claims 9, 11-13 and 15-18 have been amended to depend from allowable claims 10 or 14. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel in view of Huber (U.S. Patent No. 5,107,379). By this Response, claims 19-20 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 10. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patel in view of White (U.S. Patent No. 4,724,496). By this Response, claim 21 has been

amended to depend from allowable claim 10. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Applicant submits that independent claims 10 and 14 and their depend claims 9, 11-13, and 15-31 are allowable for at least the reasons given by the Examiner. However, additional reasons exist for their patentability in view of the prior art of record. A review of the specification, claims and prosecution history for the present application provide additional reasons for patentability over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his work in examining the application and the prior art. If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicants can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the Applicants at the number below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of MHM, Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Christopher N. George/
Christopher N. George
Reg. No. 51,728

MCANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.
500 W. Madison Street
34th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661
Phone (312) 775-8000
Fax (312) 775-8100